

Claims

What is claimed is:

1. A method for providing integrated resource management comprising the steps of:

5 a) identifying a resource for deployment to a network wherein a unique specifier is assigned to the resource;

b) storing resource identification information in a centralized repository, wherein resource
10 identification information is associated with the unique specifier; and

c) enabling resource retrieval based on the unique specifier.

2. The method of claim 1 further comprising
15 the step of ensuring dependencies related to the resource are satisfied.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein the unique specifier comprises one or more of a resource identifier, a type identifier, and a version
20 identifier.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein the unique specifier comprises a resource identifier, a type identifier, and a version identifier.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein the unique specifier comprises a hierarchical resource name that is allocated to an entity.

6. The method of claim 5 wherein the hierarchical resource name comprises a domain name.

7. The method of claim 6 wherein the domain name is a part of the unique specifier.

8. The method of claim 1 wherein resource management comprises static resource management and dynamic resource management.

9. The method of claim 8 wherein static resource management comprises allocation and deployment.

10. The method of claim 8 wherein dynamic resource management comprises event state correlation.

11. The method of claim 2 wherein the step comprising ensuring dependencies are satisfied further comprises the step of utilizing a deployment tool.

12. The method of claim 11 wherein the deployment tool deploys the resource to the network and deploys information related to one or more of the

resource's relationships, definition and identity to a resource manager.

13. The method of claim 11 wherein the deployment tool deploys the resource to the network
5 and deploys information related to one or more of the resource's relationships, definition and identity to a repository accessible to a resource manager.

14. The method of claim 12 wherein the information related to the resource's relationships
10 comprises dependency information wherein dependency information comprises a definition of the nature of a dependency and an identifier of a dependent entity.

15. The method of claim 12 wherein the resource manager denies deployment of the resource if
15 dependencies are not satisfied.

16. The method of claim 12 wherein the resource manager provides a warning wherein the warning provides information related to unsatisfied dependencies and proceeds with deployment of the
20 resource if dependencies are not satisfied.

17. The method of claim 1 wherein resource retrieval comprises utilizing a hash map for local software resources.

18. The method of claim 1 wherein resource retrieval comprises receiving proxies for remote resources.

19. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of
5 enabling resource retrieval further comprises requesting a resource from a resource manager using a resource specifier.

20. The method of 19 wherein the resource manager applies a different algorithm to retrieve the
10 resource based on a type identifier of the requested resource.

21. The method of claim 19 wherein the resource manager applies one or more strategies based on the resource specifier.

15 22. The method of claim 21 wherein the one or more strategies are based on a hierarchical system.

23. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of enabling resource retrieval further comprises utilizing one or more resource retrieval mechanisms
20 that are extensible to allow one or more alternative resource access strategies.

24. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of enabling resource retrieval further comprises

utilizing one or more resource retrieval mechanisms that are configurable to enable one or more resource specific strategies.

25. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of
5 enabling resource retrieval further comprises utilizing one or more resource retrieval mechanisms that are transparent to a requesting entity.

26. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of
10 enabling resource retrieval further comprises assigning a particular resource access strategy to an entire resource type.

27. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of enabling resource retrieval further comprises implementing a default access strategy.

15 28. The method of claim 1 further comprising a step of referencing a primary resource specifier from one or more alias resource specifiers so that when a resource specifier is modified, one or more resource users which access the resource specifier will
20 retrieve a modified version.

29. The method of claim 1 further comprising a version strategy.

30. The method of claim 29 wherein the version strategy comprises the step of requesting a resource with a particular version ID to retrieve the particular version or a newer version of the
5 resource.

31. The method of claim 30 wherein the newer version is upward compatible with one or more previous versions of the resource.

32. A system for providing integrated resource
10 management comprising:

a) identification means for identifying a resource for deployment to a network wherein a unique specifier is assigned to the resource;

b) storing means for storing resource
15 identification information in a centralized repository, wherein resource identification information is associated with the unique specifier;
and

c) retrieval means for enabling resource
20 retrieval based on the unique specifier.

33. The system of claim 32 further comprises ensuring means for ensuring dependencies related to the resource are satisfied.

34. The system of claim 32 wherein the unique specifier comprises one or more of a resource identifier, a type identifier, and a version identifier.

5 35. The system of claim 32 wherein the unique specifier comprises a resource identifier, a type identifier, and a version identifier.

36. The system of claim 32 wherein the unique specifier comprises a hierarchical resource name that
10 is allocated to an entity.

37. The system of claim 36 wherein the hierarchical resource name comprises a domain name.

38. The system of claim 37 wherein the domain name is a part of the unique specifier.

15 39. The system of claim 32 wherein resource management comprises static resource management and dynamic resource management.

40. The system of claim 39 wherein static resource management comprises allocation and
20 deployment.

41. The system of claim 39 wherein dynamic resource management comprises event state correlation.

42. The system of claim 33 wherein ensuring dependencies are satisfied are accomplished through a deployment tool.

43. The system of claim 42 wherein the
5 deployment tool deploys the resource to the network and deploys information related to one or more of the resource's relationships, definition and identity to a resource manager.

44. The system of claim 42 wherein the
10 deployment tool deploys the resource to the network and deploys information related to one or more of the resource's relationships, definition and identity to a repository accessible to a resource manager.

45. The system of claim 44 wherein the
15 information related to the resource's relationships comprises dependency information wherein dependency information comprises a definition of the nature of a dependency and an identifier of a dependent entity.

46. The system of claim 44 wherein the resource
20 manager denies deployment of the resource if dependencies are not satisfied.

47. The system of claim 44 wherein the resource manager provides a warning wherein the warning

provides information related to unsatisfied dependencies and proceeds with deployment of the resource if dependencies are not satisfied.

48. The system of claim 32 wherein retrieval
5 means further comprises utilizing a hash map for local software resources.

49. The system of claim 32 wherein retrieval means further comprises receiving proxies for remote resources.

10 50. The system of claim 32 wherein retrieval means further comprises requesting means for requesting a resource from a resource manager using a resource specifier.

15 51. The system of 50 wherein the resource manager applies a different algorithm to retrieve the resource based on a type identifier of the requested resource.

20 52. The system of claim 50 wherein the resource manager applies one or more strategies based on the resource specifier.

53. The system of claim 52 wherein the one or more strategies are based on a hierarchical system.

54. The system of claim 32 wherein retrieval means further comprises utilization means for utilizing one or more resource retrieval mechanisms that are extensible to allow one or more alternative
5 resource access strategies.

55. The system of claim 32 wherein the retrieval means further comprises utilization means for utilizing one or more resource retrieval mechanisms that are configurable to enable one or
10 more resource specific strategies.

56. The system of claim 32 wherein the retrieval means further comprises utilization means for utilizing one or more resource retrieval mechanisms that are transparent to a requesting
15 entity.

57. The system of claim 32 wherein the retrieval means further comprises assigning means for assigning a particular resource access strategy to an entire resource type.

20 58. The system of claim 32 wherein the retrieval means further comprises implementation means for implementing a default access strategy.

59. The system of claim 32 further comprising a
referencing means for referencing a primary resource
specifier from one or more alias resource specifiers
so that when a resource specifier is modified, one or
5 more resource users which access the resource
specifier will retrieve a modified version.

60. The system of claim 32 further comprising a
version strategy.

61. The system of claim 60 wherein the version
10 strategy comprises requesting means for requesting a
resource with a particular version ID to retrieve the
particular version or a newer version of the
resource.

62. The system of claim 61 wherein the newer
15 version is upward compatible with one or more
previous versions of the resource.